Serial No.: 09/997,662
Art Unit: 2667

Please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants respectfully request the entering of the following amendments to the specification, said amendments submitted in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b)(1).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 22 of the specification with the amended paragraph as shown below:

FIG. 2 is a diagram showing a data transmission system, as is known in the prior art, wherein some bins are transmitted without data (i.e., unloaded bins) due to SNR limitations ~~shown in FIG. 2~~.

Please add the following paragraph immediately prior to the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 16 of the specification:

FIG. 6C is a diagram showing a non-limiting example of the transmit (or source) processor of FIG. 5 in one embodiment of the invention in greater detail.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 14 of the specification with the amended paragraph as shown below:

FIG. 7B is a diagram showing a non-limiting example of the ~~cluster demodulator~~ cluster separator (demodulator) of FIG. 7A in one embodiment of the invention in greater detail.

Please add the following paragraph immediately prior to the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 16 of the specification:

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FIG. 7C is a diagram showing a non-limiting example of the receive (or sink) processor of FIG. 5 in one embodiment of the invention in greater detail.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 4 of the specification with the amended paragraph as shown below:

FIG. 11 is a flow chart showing a non-limiting example ~~showing~~ of the step of the determination of the cluster pattern in FIG. 10C in greater detail.

Please add the following paragraph immediately prior to the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 2 of the specification:

FIG. 6C is a diagram showing an alternative non-limiting example of the transmit (or source) processor. FIG 6C depicts a modulation device with a corresponding SNR calculator 660, a comparator 661, and a designator 662. A circuit which can be to configured sequentially add insufficient-capacity bins until the linear sum of the individual bins exceeds the predefined threshold SNR is also shown. These components of an exemplary embodiment will be described in further detail below in reference to FIGS. 7A-7C.

Please add the following paragraph immediately prior to the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 16 of the specification:

FIG. 7C is a diagram showing an alternative non-limiting example of the receive (or sink) processor. FIG. 7C depicts a linear summing circuit 781, which can be configured to produce the data stored within received insufficient capacity bins.

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